

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/816,874

Examiner

Tara L. Bolton

Applicant(s)

BECQUERELLE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application number 10/816,874 filed on 5 April 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 04/05/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 11/02/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ed Tracy on November 10, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 1, "in particular" has been deleted.

Claim 1, line 4, "the" before "axis" has been changed to "an."

Claim 1, line 13, "carriers" has been changed to "carrier."

Claim 1, line 16, "bearing" has been inserted between "each" and "having."

Claim 1, line 18, "housing" has been inserted between "each" and "disposed."

Claim 2, line 2, "end annular" has been changed to "axial end."

Claim 3, line 2, "the" before "annular chambers" has been deleted.

Claim 4, line 5, "the front face" has been changed to "front faces."

Claim 4, line 6, "groove" has been changed to "grooves."

Claim 5, line 1, "claim 1" has been changed to "claim 2."

In the abstract, line 1 of the paragraph, "the invention relates to" has been deleted and "a" has been changed to "A."

In the specification, page 6, line 18, "5" has been changed to "4."

In the specification, page 11, line 13, "8" has been changed to "2."

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior arts of record fail to teach a speed reduction gear train comprising a sun gear, a planet carrier, an annular gear, planet gears, an annular cage and an annular cage carrier, with a flexible connection between the annular cage and the annular cage carrier, as recited in claim 1, more specifically, each pin for fixing an arm of the cage carrier to the cage is mounted by a spherical finger type connection which is radially rigid relative to the axis of the reduction gear train and flexible in tilting and in axial displacement, the connection between the pin and the other part constituted by the arm being provided by a sleeve surrounding the pin, wherein the sleeve comprises two axial end plates and a plurality of coaxial bushings disposed between the end plates.

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Submission of your response by facsimile transmission is encouraged. Group 3600's facsimile number is (571) 273-8300. Recognizing the fact that reducing cycle time in the processing and examination of patent applications will effectively increase a patent's term, it is to your benefit to submit responses by facsimile transmission whenever permissible. Such submission will place the response directly in our examining group's hands and will eliminate Post Office processing and delivery time as well as the PTO's mail room processing and delivery time. For a complete list of correspondence not permitted by facsimile transmission, see MPEP 502.01. In general, most responses

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and/or amendments not requiring a fee, as well as those requiring a fee but charging such fee to a deposit account, can be submitted by facsimile transmission. Responses requiring a fee which applicant is paying by check should not be submitting by facsimile transmission separately from the check.

Responses submitted by facsimile transmission should include a Certificate of Transmission (MPEP 512). The following is an example of the format the certification might take:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (571) 273-8300) on _____ (Date)

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate:

(Signature)

If your response is submitted by facsimile transmission, you are hereby reminded that the original should be retained as evidence of authenticity (37 CFR 1.4 and MPEP 502.02). Please do not separately mail the original or another copy unless required by the Patent and Trademark Office. Submission of the original response or a follow-up copy of the response after your response has been transmitted by facsimile will only cause further unnecessary delays in the processing of your application; duplicate responses where fees are charged to a deposit account may result in those fees being charged twice.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent No. 5,391,125, Turra teaches a speed reducer as shown in Fig. 3. However, Turra fails to teaches a flexible connection between the annular elements.
4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent No. 5,466,198, McKibbin teaches a geared drive system with a pivotable connection. However, McKibbin fails to teach a connection flexible in tilting and in axial displacement where the connection between a pin and the arm being provided by a sleeve surrounding the pin, wherein the sleeve comprises two axial end plates and a plurality of coaxial bushings disposed between the end plates.
5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tara L. Bolton whose telephone number is 571-272-1649. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on 571-272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

tlb
THB 11/14/05


RODNEY H. BONCK
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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